

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

This year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity takes place from 18th - 25th January. The theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity for 2026: 'One hope, one calling' - comes from Apostle Paul's letter to the Ephesians: "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling" (Eph. 4:4).

In a world with diverse and often divided traditions and expressions of Christian faith, Ephesians 4:4 reminds us that all believers are part of the "one body" of Christ.

"Let us embrace this divine calling to unity, not as an abstract ideal but as a vital expression of our faith," invites the theme of this year. "By living in unity, we not only witness to the love and power of our Lord Jesus Christ, but also embody the essence of His teachings."

Leo XIV's Prayer Intention for January

This month, Pope Leo XIV invites us to rediscover the transforming power of God's Word. Along with Pope Leo, we turn to prayer, asking that we might be a Church that "prays with the Word, that is built upon it and shares it with joy, so that in every person, the hope of a new world may be born again." By praying you join millions of people who belong to the World-wide Prayer Network who, from every corner of the world, are praying for the challenges of humanity and the Church's mission.

Kilkenny Medjugorje Group Pilgrimage

Kilkenny Medjugorje Group Pilgrimage takes place from 23rd to 30th September. Price €895 + insurance. There is a €50 discount for those who pay the deposit of €200 before 31st January. For more information or to make a reservation please contact Ann on 086 199 1620.

Leaving Cert Irish Oral Exam Workshop

A three part Leaving Cert Irish Oral Workshop which will cover all elements of the Leaving Cert Irish Oral exam will take place in Gaelscoil Osraí R95 AT85 on the following dates: Thursdays 5th, 12th and 19th March from 6.00 to 8.30pm each evening. These workshops will provide an opportunity for students to learn, prepare and practice for their Leaving Cert Irish Oral Exam. To book or for further information contact tobarnagaeilge@yahoo.com or 087 667 3302 (Maria Ni Thuama).

Poor Clares Galway

Half-day retreat for women from 18 to 35 with Beth Davis of 'Blessed is She Ministries'. This is an opportunity to encounter God's love and deepen your life of prayer and communion with God.

The event will take place from 2.00pm to 6.00pm on Sunday, 1st February.

For more information and to register: <https://cherisheddaughters.eventbrite.ie>

Address: St John's Presbytery, Dublin Road, Kilkenny. R95 ND2W

Email: stjohns@ossory.ie **Website:** www.stjohnskilkenny.com

Office: 056 772 1072; **Secretary:** Áine Butler; **Office Hours:** Mon-Fri 9.30 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.

Newsletter Deadline: Thursdays 12.00 noon

SVP Help Line: 051 350 725

Monsignor Dan Carroll: 087 907 7769. Fr Tom O'Toole: 087 224 0787.

Fr. Paul Kasu 087 390 5060. Monsignor Michael Ryan (Retired)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Mary Brennan; Jo Browne; Alan Burke; Fr Dan Carroll; Claire Coogan; Fr. Paul Kasu; Luke Leydon; Paddy Manning; Iris O'Flynn; Fr Tom O'Toole; Karena Phelan.

IF YOU HAVE A SAFEGUARDING CONCERN CONTACT

The Diocesan Designated Liaison Person, Ms. Ailish Higgins, 085 802 1633 - dlp@ossory.ie

OUR PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES ARE:

Brenda Whitely; Marian Eardly.

Counselling Services - Towards Healing Confidential Helpline

1800 313 316 - www.towardshealing.ie

Roman Catholic Diocese and Parishes of Ossory - Registered Charity No. 20015831

Parish Of Saint John The Evangelist

incorporating | St John's | Dunmore | Johnswell | church areas

MASS TIMES

St John's - Saturday: 6.00pm (Vigil); **Sunday:** 8.00am, 11.30am & 7.00pm.

Holy Days: 6.00pm (Vigil); 8.00am, 10.30am & 7.00pm.

Weekdays: 8.00am, 10.30am. (Sat. 10.30am only). **Adoration:** Wednesdays at 11.00am.

Johnswell - Sunday 10.00am

Dunmore - Sunday 11.00am

**St. John's Parish, St. Mary's Parish, St. Patrick's Parish, St. Canice's Parish
together form the Kilkenny City Pastoral Area**

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - 18th January 2026

Catholic Schools Week 2026

Catholic Schools Week is an annual celebration that highlights the contributions of Catholic education to the community. In 2026, the week will run from 18th to 24th January. This year's theme, "Normal Lives, Called to Holiness," encourages students, teachers, families, and parishes to explore the universal call to holiness in everyday life. Inspired by Pope Francis's reflection on Blessed Carlo Acutis this year's theme invites pupils, teachers, families, and parishes to explore the call to holiness as something both universal and accessible. This year's theme resonates with the central conviction that education is a path not only to knowledge and maturity but to sainthood.

"Each of us is called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do." (*Gaudete et Exsultate*, 14).

A Prayer for Catholic Schools

Almighty God,

You sent forth your Son as a beacon of hope for all people.

As a teacher, he has given us the prime example of the importance of education.

As disciples, we look to him for inspiration and strength.

Thank you for the many people who have dedicated their lives in service to our Catholic Schools.

Our teachers and Boards of Management who sustain our schools.

Our parents who have given support and witness to the importance of Catholic education.

Our students who work hard to further their education.

Bless all our Catholic Schools and the many people who advance our mission.

May our schools be a home for those who seek to grow in openness, faith, love, intellect and commitment to justice. In your name, we pray. Amen.

Eastern Environs Group

The Eastern Environs Community Group will resume next Wednesday, 21st January at 2.00pm in the Parish Centre. New members always welcome.

Anam Cara

Anam Cara, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on Wednesday, 21st January 2026 at 7.30pm in the Horse and Jockey Hotel, Thurles.

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Lena Deevy-Grobbs, England & late of Jenkinstown.
Martin (Murt) Brennan, Melville Heights Jack Magner, Dukesmeadow
Una Doheny, The Paddocks

Months Mind: Johnny Lawlor (11.30am).

Anniversaries: Elizabeth Betty Burke (6.00pm); Michael Dowling (8.00am); Gemma Clancy (11.00am); Teresa Barcoe; Liam Kelly; Mary & Jack Lahert; Catherine & Patrick Guidera (11.30am); Bridget Slattery; Mary Ruth; Tess Hillman; Maureen Fitzgerald; Ann Hawe; Eamon Goulding; Mary & Kevin Fanning; Paddy Lacey; Brendan O'Brien; Mary Leahy; Nelly Donnelly; Bridie Murphy; Carmel Maher; John & Rita McKiernan; Maureen McKiernan; Catherine Cassin; Fr. Larry Foley.

*Those we love don't go away,
they walk beside us every day.
Unseen, unheard, but always near.
Still loved, still missed and very dear.*

Readers for Next Weekend

6.00pm Mairin Bergin
8.00am Niamh Carroll
10.00am Teresa Dowling
11.00am Stephanie Butler & Roger Curran
11.30am Frank & Emily Bradley
7.00pm Joan Galwey



Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection:	€3,552.00		
	Mass	Attendance	Baskets
6.00pm St. John's	129		162.00
8.00am St. John's	66		191.00
10.00am Johnswell	41		119.00
11.00am Dunmore	107		173.00
11.30am St. John's	183		468.00
7.00pm St. John's	99		375.00
	625		€1,488.00

Do This in Memory

This Saturday, as part of our *Do This in Memory* Programme, it's a great pleasure to welcome the children who are preparing for First Holy Communion and their families to our 6.00pm Mass. We would ask you to keep the children and their families in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Eucharist for the first time.

Johnswell NS Enrolment and Open Day

Johnswell NS are now enrolling Junior Infants for September 2026. The application form can be completed on our website www.johnswellns.net
We are hosting our Open Afternoon on Friday, 30th January from 1.00pm to 3.00pm for current and prospective families. We would love to see you there!

St Vincent De Paul

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the society throughout the year and particularly at Christmas time. We were able to help over three hundred families in the parish of St John's during the year. This could not be done without your help and support. It is greatly appreciated. Anyone looking for help can contact us by phone at 051 350 725 and online at <https://www.svp.ie/requests-help/>

Baby & Toddler Play Group

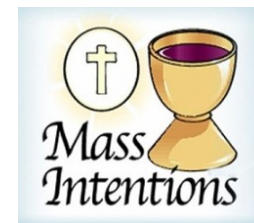
Stay and Play Group, on a Wednesday morning for children aged 0 - 4 years at Millenium Court Community Building, Hebron Road, R95RK40. This group will give children a chance to play and socialise, while parents/guardians enjoy a cup of tea or coffee.
The group is free. Please contact Bronagh on 087 193 9776 with any queries or to book a place.

Kilkenny Sub Aqua Club

Annual Church gate collection next weekend the 24th and 25th January 2026. Please support.

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 19th January 2026

Monday: 8.00am John & Rita McKiernan & Maureen McKiernan
10.30am Tess Hillman
Wednesday: 10.30am Catherine Cassin & Fr. Larry Foley
Friday: 10.30am Maureen Fitzgerald
Saturday: 10.30am Ann Hawe
6.00pm **MM** John Seánie Fitzgerald
Richard Grace
Billy Malone
Sunday: 8.00am Frank Walsh
10.00am Catherine & Louis Brennan
MM Joan O'Sullivan
11.00am Claire & John Irwin; Renee & Jarlath Walshe
11.30am Lil Redmond: Patrick & Hugh Meany; Dick Brennan
Michael Brendan Kelly; Flora Kilusungu
Anna MacEneaney
7.00pm Anne, Michael, Bridget & Michael Jnr O'Connor



May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

The Ossory Pilgrimage to Lourdes

The annual Ossory Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 25th to 30th May 2026. All bookings should be made through Joe Walsh Tours by telephone on 01 241 0800, or online at www.joewalshstours.ie/pilgrimages/group-diocesan-pilgrimages/ or by post to JWT, 89 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2, D02WY88.

Special Assisted/Sick Section: Pilgrims who would like to travel with the Special Assisted Section should apply to Anna Colleton at a.colleton@cbskillkenney.ie. This special assisted/sick section is accommodated at the Accueil. Acceptance for travel with the special section for the sick is subject to the approval of the Pilgrimage Medical Board. Early booking is advisable as space is limited to one plane load.

Thought for the Day

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and Catholic Schools Week begin today. John the Baptist 'Saw Jesus coming toward him.' Jesus is always coming toward us, too. Why? Because he loves us. He never imposes himself. He doesn't burst through the door and force us to accept him or even acknowledge him. But he does remain close, hoping we will catch a glimpse of his love and, in that instant, recognize that he is everything our hearts long for. What will happen if we open the door of our life, of our heart, to Christ? He will call us to abandon the tight confines of our egotism, greed, lust, envy, and selfishness. He will open undreamed-of horizons and give a rich, new dimension to our poor, fleeting days on this earth. (ePriest.com)

Radio Maria

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6. Via DAB Radio in Leinster area.

Why not drop a line to our Spiritual Director, Fr Des Farren by text on 089 467 2000, by phone on 01 412 3456, or come and pay us a visit at Radio Maria Ireland, St. Anthony's Business Park, Ballymount Road, Dublin 22. D22 R7W2.